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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 8 March 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from His Excellency Mr. Radoje Kontić, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 8 March 1993 from the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General

In the letter I sent to you on 29 January 1993, I addressed a request to you to recommend to the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) for a further 12-month period. The Security Council has approved your report and the recommendation made on 10 February 1993 and has made a decision to extend provisionally the UNPROFOR mandate until 31 March 1993.

In keeping with Security Council resolution 807 (1993) of 19 February 1993, I wish to inform you that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is of the view that it is indispensable for the UNPROFOR mandate to be further extended even after 31 March, and that its efficient operation should be ensured in compliance with the Peace Keeping Operation Plan, established by Council resolution 743 (1992), this being the only way security and stability can be preserved in the United Nations protected areas.

The presence of UNPROFOR, as emphasized in my last letter, made it possible to maintain fragile peace in the United Nations protected areas. Thereby, further confrontation and an escalation of the war have been avoided. Some initial results of the negotiating process are in sight, with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia taking a very active part in them, even though it is not directly involved in the conflict.

Regrettably, the continuous Croatian aggression in the United Nations protected areas, notwithstanding the strongest Security Council condemnation, is a classical example of a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the Vance Plan; the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia resolutely supports the Plan and seeks to see its provisions fully implemented.

By its present aggression on the Serbian population in the United Nations protected areas, Croatia is seeking to continue what it started a year ago. In so doing, it does not even shirk from attacking UNPROFOR forces. The Croatian refusal to carry out the provisions of Security Council resolution 802 (1993), its continual announcements of its readiness to invade the United Nations protected areas, the build-up of fresh troops at the Krajina borders, as well as its armed and other provocations at its border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the Prevlaka Peninsula region, pose the danger of a further escalation and intensification of the war in this area and the imminence of a dramatic deterioration of the situation there.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is in full agreement with the assessment expressed in your report dated 10 February 1993, to the effect that the withdrawal of the United Nations protection forces from the United Nations protected areas would "almost certainly result in the resumption of large-scale hostilities in the areas where they are deployed".

Given the reasons adduced, it is obvious that the presence of United Nations peace forces is even more necessary now than a year ago to protect the Serbian people in the Krajinas. There is no doubt that keeping peace and security in these areas directly contributes to the Geneva and New York negotiating processes.

In view of the fact that, on the basis of your report, a new Security Council decision is pending on the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate, please take note of the fact that the presence of UNPROFOR in the protected areas is an essential factor for the creation of the necessary conditions for the reaching of a political settlement to the problem. In your efforts, you can count, as always, on the full cooperation and assistance of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you once again for your understanding and efforts.

I look forward to a positive Security Council decision on the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate for the next 12-month period.

(Signed) Dr. Radoje KONTIĆ
Federal Prime Minister

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